

## VENEZUELAN ROW IS MORE PACIFIC

England Ready to Arbitrate on German Conditions; Germany the Only Stumbling Block.

### OTHER POWERS SAY THEY'LL GO ALONG

Unofficial Report of Castro's Commission to Bowen Impresses Germans Favorably—British Foreign Office Declares That It Will Deal Only with Our State Department—Italy Favors Arbitration, but Will Adhere to Course of the Allies—General Trend of the Day's Developments Distinctly Favorable to a Pacific Adjustment of the Whole Vexed Matter.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The official day closed without further developments here regarding the Venezuelan complications. The status of the arbitration proposition, on which everyone waits, was that, with a willingness to accept such a solution in principle, no one of the allies was ready to submit unreservedly to arbitration; in each case there were reservations or conditions insisted upon. Respecting the method of arbitration, it should come to the form of adjustment, it is noted that the feeling is growing that the Hague tribunal should undertake the case. Mr. Bowen, it was understood, wishes to come to Washington in order to personally effect an adjustment with the resident ambassador of the allies, but while the state department makes no statement upon the point, it is believed that it does not regard this plan with favor.

It is pointed out here, in connection with the project to refer the matter to the Hague tribunal, that in some phases the dispute will not admit of arbitration. Such is the case, for instance, where attacks on British and German subjects, and the German legation at Caracas, and arrests of consular officers, have made the Venezuelan offense equivalent to attacks on the national honor of the allies, and as such to be atoned for only by an ample apology. The Hague tribunal could not arbitrate such issues, but it is pointed out at the state department that the claims are divisible and that if President Castro chooses to render the necessary apologies, the remaining questions can properly go to the Hague.

It is believed that the United States government inclines to view that there is a disposition to insist needlessly on guarantees for the payment by Venezuela of any judgment that might be rendered against her by the arbitration. It is believed that the force of enlightened public opinion would absolutely insure a settlement of any judgment rendered by the august tribunal and that President Castro would not be sustained by a single American country in defaulting.

#### Proposal Is Accepted.

Berlin, Dec. 19.—The answer of Germany to the arbitration proposal in behalf of Venezuela received through the United States government, is its acceptance. The federal government has replied to the United States for transmission to the Minister Bowen is delayed for a day or two for tactical reasons, probably through the expectation that another solution may be found, possibly by President Castro yielding.

Four days ago the idea of the German government was in favor of rejecting arbitration, and that is understood here to have been the temper of the British foreign office. While it is impossible to trace the steps that led to a reversal of this view, it appears that the state of public opinion in the United States, so far as Germany is concerned, produced a revision of the first idea.

#### The British Reply.

London, Dec. 19.—Great Britain has sent a reply to the United States in regard to the suggestion that the Venezuelan question should be referred to arbitration. The tenor of this reply, it is expected here, will tend to bring about some arrangement for a satisfactory solution, while thoroughly safeguarding the interests of the powers concerned. The note announcing that Great Britain had sent a reply to the United States adds:

"The statements issued from Caracas to the effect that President Castro has empowered Minister Bowen to act as the representative of Venezuela are regarded in London as open to question. Any such action on the part of President Castro would be considered wholly beside the mark. The powers concerned will deal solely with the United States in the matter of arbitration. The government of President Castro will not be consulted in any form, not even as to the terms on which arbitration might be acceptable to the powers."

#### What France Wants.

Paris, Dec. 19.—The foreign office here desires to have it understood that the note sent to the French chargé d'affaires at Caracas does not ask Venezuela to give preferential treatment to French claims, but only treatment equal to that which the other powers may receive through their recourse to force. This applies only to claims which have arisen since 1899, previous claims being submitted to arbitration.

Concerning recent claims, France first offered to demand the Venezuelan courts to pass upon them, but since Germany and Great Britain expect to secure preference by the adoption of forcible collection, the French charge

d'affaires has now been ordered to inform Venezuela that France expects the same advantages in the adjustment of claims as Venezuela grants to Germany and Great Britain. This is not intended as a coercive measure, but only to secure for France equal treatment with the other powers.

#### Holland Takes a Hand.

Paris, Dec. 19.—A dispatch from The Hague says that the government of Holland has dispatched several warships to the island of Curacao to protect Dutch subjects and to observe events. The dispatch adds that it is possible that Holland will join in the action of the allied powers against Venezuela.

Cruiser Ordered to La Guayra.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Dec. 19.—The United States cruiser Albany has been ordered to La Guayra. She will return immediately from that port. This step is taken in accordance with instructions from Secretary Moody, transmitted through Admiral Dewey.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The explanation of the visit of the cruiser Albany to La Guayra, from which place she is to return immediately to her position with Admiral Dewey's command, which is made here, is that she is to transport a naval officer to assist Minister Bowen in the discharge of the numerous duties that suddenly have devolved on the minister.

#### Arbitration Proposal.

Caracas, Dec. 19.—The Venezuelan government has received information from Washington that its proposal for the arbitration of the adjustment of the British, German and Italian difficulties has been transmitted by Secretary Hay to the governments in question. Answer to these proposals cannot be expected here before tomorrow.

The Venezuelan people are still waiting with considerable excitement the news of these proposals. They cannot understand that their country, after having raised and armed 43,000 men who have not had a chance to fight and who, consequently, have not been defeated, should be reduced to accept arbitration or any other method of settlement.

Caracas is quiet but business here is paralyzed.

#### BLOCKADE NOT OBJECTED TO.

Balfour Gives His Understanding of the American Attitude.

London, Dec. 19.—In a printed reply, made public today, to the recent question in parliament of Gibson Bowles, M. P., Conservative, Premier Balfour says no intimation has been received from the government of the United States that it will object to American shipping being interfered with in the event of a blockade of the Venezuelan coast. The objections to the blockade which it is proposed to establish have been carefully considered. They cannot, however, be altogether removed, as some of them are inherent to that particular class of naval operations. Mr. Bowles also asked "whether, in view of the destruction by the Germans of two gunboats and the consequent impossibility of holding them as pledges, the government proposed to continue joint action with Germany?" The premier replied in the affirmative.

DEMONSTRATION AT QUITO.

Ecuador's Citizens Parade to Show Sympathy for Castro.

Quayquil, Dec. 19.—There was a large parade in the streets of Quito last night as a manifestation of sympathy with Venezuela. President Castro has a message as follows to President Plaza's message:

"Profound gratitude toward the government and noble people of Ecuador. The national honor is saved, although the right of force reigns."

#### PERU OFFICERS VOLUNTEER.

Ready to Aid Venezuela in Case of Further Hostilities.

Lima, Dec. 19.—A number of army officers here propose calling their names to the president of Venezuela, offering their services in the case of the situation becoming more complicated.

#### NEW DELAY ON CANAL TREATY.

Convention May Not Be Ready for Senate Till New Year.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Confirmation of the Panama canal treaty with Colombia has again been moved into the future. It is now said that no treaty can be expected before Christmas and probably not until the beginning of next year.

#### Four Hundred Thousand Destitute.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 19.—Four hundred thousand persons are reported to be destitute and starving as a result of the crop failure in Finland. The Anglo-American church has undertaken to feed and clothe the school children of four Finnish parishes, and Pastor Francis has issued an appeal for assistance in this work. He says the conditions today are worse than those of 1867, when 100,000 persons died.

#### Victims of Premature Blast.

York, Pa., Dec. 19.—Two men were killed today by a premature blast in the quarries of the York and Peach Bottom stone company at York. The victims were Thomas G. Williams, a foreman, and an unknown Italian laborer. The men were preparing to set off a blast when the dynamite exploded.

#### St. Louis Men Convicted.

St. Louis, Dec. 19.—The joint trial of five former members of the house of delegates which began Tuesday ended tonight in a verdict of five years in the penitentiary for each man.

## FIRE COMPANY BOYCOTTED.

Some Members Worked During the Strike—Company Now Disbands.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Mount Carmel, Pa., Dec. 19.—The 81,000 hook and ladder truck and hose of the Mount Carmel Hook and Ladder company were sold to private parties here today, the company having disbanded last night with eighty members in service.

When the coal strike was inaugurated there were 200 members. A few persisted in remaining at work in the mines. They could not be ousted from the company, so everybody else on strike finally resigned. The company was boycotted. The company's two horses, which, when not at work, were used for hauling coal and ice, were no longer needed, as no one would give the company an order for hauling. Expenses accumulated and the remaining non-union members decided to disband.

## LAURA BIGGAR CONSPIRACY CASE

Said She Consented to a Quiet Marriage Because She Did Not Want to Be Talked About.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Freehold, N. J., Dec. 19.—Dr. Hendricks, one of the defendants in the case of Laura Biggar, said today that for alleged conspiracy to get Harry M. Bennett's estate, was one of the witnesses at the trial today. He said P. J. McNulty and Attorney Watterson, of Pittsburgh, called at the Bayonne sanitarium to see Miss Biggar regarding the Bennett estate.

The witness said his only interest in the will was to have it probated and that at the time of Mr. McNulty's call, the question was discussed whether Miss Biggar would be better off as a common law wife of Mr. Bennett than in her present condition.

Willis S. Biggar, son of Miss Biggar and her former husband, J. W. McConnell, an actor, testified that his father, Mr. Bennett, came from the west to see Mr. Bennett before the latter's death. P. J. McNulty testified as to his part in employing a Pittsburgh detective to unearth the alleged conspiracy.

Laura Biggar took the witness stand this afternoon and swore that she was married to J. W. McConnell, the father of the boy known as Willis Biggar, 11 or 15 years ago. On Thanksgiving day, 1897, Mr. Bennett proposed to her.

He insisted there were no obstacles in the way of their marriage. Letters passed between them nearly every day and she finally accepted him. She said she consented to a quiet marriage because she did not want the public to talk about her.

## PROVIDING FOR NEW CABINET MEMBER

Bill to Create Commerce Department to Be Reported Favorably—Three New Bureaus to Be Created.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 19.—The house committee on interstate commerce today ordered a favorable report on the department of commerce bill. The vote on reporting it stood 5 to 3. The provision for including the bureau of labor in the new department was retained on a tie vote.

The bill as it will come from the house committee will embrace within the proposed department of commerce the lighthouse board, the lighthouse service, national bureau of standards, coast and geodetic survey, bureau of immigration, fish commission, bureau of statistics and the treasury department, bureau of foreign commerce, bureau of the state department, fur seal and salmon fisheries, bureau of labor and census and three new bureaus—insurance, manufactures and corporations.

The province and duty of the proposed bureau of corporations is to give the direction of the secretary of commerce, to gather, compile and supply useful information concerning corporations engaged in interstate or foreign commerce.

Murderer Hanged.

Newroads, La., Dec. 19.—Willis Williams, colored, burglar and murderer, was hanged here today in the presence of 1,000 people. The crime for which Williams was executed was the murder of young Albert Herbert at Fordham station, this parish, in September, 1901. At the time of the murder Williams had escaped from a state convict camp where he was serving a thirty years' sentence in the penitentiary.

Wounded Burglar Dies.

Middleburg, Pa., Dec. 19.—The burglar shot by Rev. D. S. Shellenberger, at Bannockburn, this county, on Nov. 20, died this evening in his cell at the county jail. The burglar died without revealing his name. Rev. Mr. Shellenberger is the postmaster at Bannockburn and he shot the burglar while the latter was robbing the post-office.

Steamship Arrivals.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Dec. 19.—Clearing: Lucania, Liverpool; Vandalia, Antwerp; Noordam, Boulogne and Rotterdam; Ethiopia, Glasgow; Patricia, Hamburg; Rotterdam—Arrived: Ryndam, Rotterdam; Packard, freight and coal runs of the Hagerman and Mahanoy divisions, will be increased from \$1.75 to \$1.85 and of Hagerman from \$1.35 to \$1.45 per day. Broken on the mine runs and yard engines will be advanced from \$1.50 to \$2.00 and all runs from \$1.50 to \$1.85.

No Prize Fights in Michigan.

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 19.—Governor Bliss will not permit the McGovern-Corbett fight which was to have been held in Detroit next month before the Metropolitan Athletic club. He wrote today to Sheriff Dickson of Wayne county, calling his attention to the law on the subject and telling him that he expected him as sheriff to see that the fight was not held in Detroit.

Heavy Judgment Entered.

New York, Dec. 19.—Judgment by default for \$20,000 was entered today against the Munn Wire Envelope company in favor of William Gow for money advanced and for advertising. An execution against the corporation's property was issued to the sheriff.

## ADULTERATED FOOD IS NOW INHIBITED

House Without a Quorum Passes Stringent Measure Safeguarding the Public Health.

### THE FINAL VOTE STANDS 72 TO 21

Sweeping Provisions Against the Use of Interstate Commerce Facilities to Transport the Commerce in Doctored Foods or Articles Not Conforming to Recognized Standards of Purity—Measure One of Far-reaching Importance.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The house today passed the pure food bill by a vote of seventy-two to twenty-one. There was not a quorum present, but the point was not raised by the opposition to the measure. The bill prohibits the introduction into any state, or territory, or district of Columbia, or from any foreign country, or to the shipments to any foreign country, of any article of food or drug which is adulterated or misbranded. The above inhibition is made to apply to the standards of quality or purity, as determined by the test laid down in such pharmacopoeia at the time of the investigation, so that its strength of effect is not lessened by adulteration and under which it is said, if it is an imitation, or of offered for sale under the name of another article, and in the case of a confectionery, if it contains terra alba, barytes, talc, chrome yellow, or other mineral substance, or poisonous colors or flavors.

In the case of drugs, if sold under a name recognized in the United States Pharmacopoeia and the drug differs from the standard of quality or purity, as determined by the test laid down in such pharmacopoeia at the time of the investigation, so that its strength of effect is not lessened by adulteration and under which it is said, if it is an imitation, or of offered for sale under the name of another article, and in the case of a confectionery, if it contains terra alba, barytes, talc, chrome yellow, or other mineral substance, or poisonous colors or flavors.

If it is found, when any substance is mixed with it so as to lower or injuriously affect its quality or strength, so that such product when offered for sale is adulterated or misbranded.

If any substance or substances have been substituted so that the product when sold shall tend to deceive the purchaser.

If any valuable constituent of an article has been wholly or in part abstracted, if it is an imitation of or offered for sale under the distinctive name of another article.

If it is mixed, colored, powdered or stained in a manner whereby damage is done to the health of the consumer.

If it contains any added or poisonous ingredient which may render such article injurious to health.

If it is false, labeled as a foreign product, or is in imitation of another substance of a previously established name, or which has been trademarked or patented.

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